Indicators for the
Post-2015 Development Agenda

Principles and Recommendations from
the UNSD / SDSN Expert Roundtable

Jessica Espey – UN SDSN
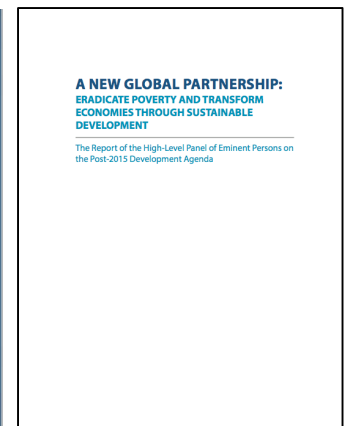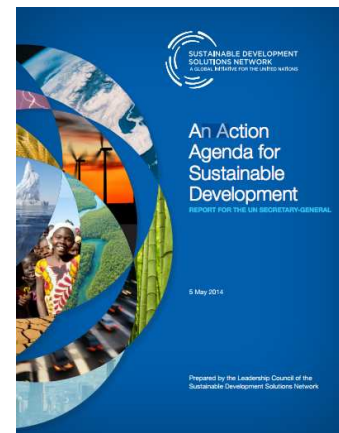Jessica.espey@unsdsn.org

The Sustainable Development Solutions Network

- Launched in August 2012 by UN SG. Led by Professor Jeffrey Sachs

- Global independent network of research centres, universities and technical institutions that work with stakeholders including business, CSO, UN agencies (etc) in support of sustainable development problem solving.

- Global network

- 12 Thematic Groups

- Solutions Initiatives

- Post-2015

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
SOLUTIONS NETWORK
A GLOBAL INITIATIVE FOR THE UNITED NATIONS

Post-2015 Process

- High Level Panel – *A New Global Partnership*

- UN System Task Team – *Realizing the Future We Want For All*

- SDSN Report – *Action Agenda for Sustainable Development*

- Global Thematic Consultations

- Open Working Group on SDGs
  - 2nd June, published 17 draft goals
  - 212 draft targets

Common Principles

- End Extreme Poverty
- Leave No One Behind
- Sustainable Development at the Core
  - Economic development
  - Social inclusion
  - Environmental Sustainability
  - Good Governance
- A New Global Partnership
- Transform Economies
- **A Data Revolution**

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
SOLUTIONS NETWORK
A GLOBAL INITIATIVE FOR THE UNITED NATIONS

Designing indicators for the SDGs

- SDSN Report – *Indicators for Sustainable Development Goals*

- Launched in February and 1.5 month long public consultation. Reissued on May 22nd

- 10 goals, 30 targets,
100 Core indicators and
additional Tier 2 indicators

Principles for designing goals, targets and indicators

Goals

1. One set of goals with a coherent narrative
2. Universal application
3. Normative standards
4. Limited in number and concise
5. Motivational and easily understandable
6. Operational and applicable to all stakeholders
7. Integrated or 'systems-based'
8. Coherent with other intergovernmental processes
9. Dynamic
10. Underpinned by high quality and consistent measuring

Targets
"SMART" targets that are also:

1. Applicable to all relevant stakeholders
2. Consistent with existing international frameworks
3. Universal but adaptable
4. Action-oriented
5. Clear on their definition of "zero" deprivation

Indicators

1. Clear and straightforward
2. Consensus based
3. Broadly consistent with systems-based information
4. Constructed from well-established data sources
5. Disaggregated
6. Universal
7. Managed by a designated organization

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
SOLUTIONS NETWORK
A GLOBAL INITIATIVE FOR THE UNITED NATIONS

SDSN & UNSD Expert Roundtable on Indicators for SDGs

- Session 1: Filling gaps in available indicators
- Session 2: Moving towards annual reporting
- Session 3: Adapting HH and other survey instruments in support of the SDGs
- Session 4: Effective architecture and resourcing for national statistical systems and international monitoring system

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
SOLUTIONS NETWORK
A GLOBAL INITIATIVE FOR THE UNITED NATIONS

Take-aways

1. SDG data and metrics are critical for (i) advocacy & accountability, (ii) management, (iii) verification

2. Annual reporting will be a reality – question is how to provide good data

3. Need to ensure national ownership and promote international coordination

4. Window of opportunity to address gaps by early 2015 ahead of adoption of SDGs

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
SOLUTIONS NETWORK
A GLOBAL INITIATIVE FOR THE UNITED NATIONS

Next Steps

1. Fill indicator gaps for minimum core set of SDG indicators:
   – Official indicators for outcomes and inputs
   – Management data
2. Clarify which data can be available annually and how (ensuring timeliness and quality)
3. Define systems approach for statistical system (national and international level) for sustainable development and monitoring of SDGs
4. Standards for bringing "non-traditional" data into official system
5. Improved surveys (continuous surveys, ex-ante harmonization, improved technologies)
6. Needs assessment for SDG data
7. Fundraising strategy
8. Campaign for sound SDG data - advocacy

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
SOLUTIONS NETWORK
A GLOBAL INITIATIVE FOR THE UNITED NATIONS

Recommendations for UN Committee of Experts on EEA

1. Providing SEEA aligned indicator recommendations to OWG / UNSG / inter-governmental process

2. Filling data gaps – environmental and economic dimensions

3. Systems approach for statistical system

4. Standards for integrating 'unofficial statistics'

5. Collaborating with SDSN, UNSD (etc) on Needs Assessment